TOEFL iBT Score Scale vs IELTS Band Score: Which Exam Is Easier for Indian Students?

Choosing between the TOEFL and IELTS exams is one of the biggest decisions for Indian students planning to study abroad. Both exams test English language proficiency and are accepted by universities across the world. However, students often wonder which exam is easier and which scoring system is more student-friendly.

Understanding the difference between the TOEFL iBT score scale and the IELTS band score can help students select the right exam according to their strengths. With expert guidance from PrepGuru Academy and access to the **Best TOEFL online classes**, students can prepare strategically and improve their chances of securing high scores.

Understanding TOEFL iBT and IELTS

What Is TOEFL iBT?

The TOEFL iBT (Internet-Based Test) is conducted by ETS and mainly focuses on academic English used in university settings. The exam is completely computer-based.

The TOEFL exam evaluates:

- Reading
- Listening
- Speaking
- Writing

The total score ranges from **0 to 120**.

What Is IELTS?

IELTS stands for the International English Language Testing System. It is jointly conducted by IDP, Cambridge, and the British Council.

IELTS also tests:

- Reading

- Listening
- Speaking
- Writing

However, IELTS uses a **band score system from 0 to 9**.

TOEFL Score Scale vs IELTS Band Score

The scoring systems of TOEFL and IELTS are different, but both measure English proficiency levels.

TOEFL Score	IELTS Band
118–120	9.0
115–117	8.5
110–114	8.0
102–109	7.5
94–101	7.0
79–93	6.5
60–78	6.0
46–59	5.5

This comparison helps students understand how universities interpret scores from both exams.

Section-Wise Comparison Between TOEFL and IELTS

Reading Section

TOEFL Reading

- Academic passages
- Computer-based questions
- Multiple-choice format
- Focus on analytical reading

IELTS Reading

- Variety of question types
- Includes matching, fill-in-the-blanks, and True/False questions
- Slightly more vocabulary-focused

Which Is Easier?

Many Indian students find TOEFL Reading easier because the question format is straightforward and entirely computer-based.

Listening Section Comparison

TOEFL Listening

- Long academic lectures
- American accents are common
- Note-taking is important

IELTS Listening

- Includes multiple English accents
- Shorter conversations
- More practical everyday situations

Which Is Easier?

Students familiar with American English often prefer TOEFL Listening, while others may find IELTS easier because of shorter audio clips.

Speaking Section Comparison

TOEFL Speaking

- Responses are recorded through a microphone
- Students speak to a computer
- Time management is crucial

IELTS Speaking

- Face-to-face interview with an examiner
- More conversational
- Includes personal discussion topics

Which Is Easier for Indian Students?

Many Indian students feel less nervous speaking to a computer during TOEFL. However, students with strong communication skills may perform better in IELTS interviews.

Joining the **Best TOEFL online classes** can help students improve fluency, pronunciation, and confidence in the speaking section.

Writing Section Comparison

TOEFL Writing

- Integrated academic writing tasks
- Focus on summarizing and analyzing information
- Typing skills are important

IELTS Writing

- Essay and report writing
- More emphasis on grammar and vocabulary
- Handwritten or computer-delivered options available

Which Is Easier?

Students comfortable with academic writing and typing generally find TOEFL Writing easier.

TOEFL vs IELTS: Exam Pattern Comparison

Feature	TOEFL iBT	IELTS
Exam Mode	Computer-based	Paper or Computer
Score System	0–120	0–9 Bands

Feature	TOEFL iBT	IELTS
Speaking Test	Recorded	Face-to-face
Focus Area	Academic English	Academic & General English
Duration	Around 2 Hours	Around 2 Hours 45 Minutes

Which Exam Is Easier for Indian Students?

The answer depends on the student's comfort level and English skills.

TOEFL May Be Easier If:

- You are comfortable using computers
- You prefer multiple-choice questions
- You are familiar with American English
- You type faster than you write
- You feel nervous during face-to-face interviews

IELTS May Be Easier If:

- You prefer human interaction
- You are comfortable writing by hand
- You can handle different question types
- You are confident speaking directly to an examiner

Many Indian students today choose TOEFL because of its shorter duration and fully digital format.

Importance of Professional Coaching

Both TOEFL and IELTS require smart preparation strategies. Self-study alone may not always be enough for achieving top scores.

PrepGuru Academy provides structured training programs that help students:

- Understand exam patterns
- Improve vocabulary and grammar
- Build speaking confidence
- Practice mock tests
- Learn time management strategies

The **Best TOEFL online classes** offer personalized guidance that helps students strengthen weak areas and improve overall performance.

Common Mistakes Students Make

Students often lose marks because of:

- Poor time management
- Lack of mock test practice
- Weak vocabulary
- Ignoring speaking preparation
- Not understanding the scoring system

Understanding the TOEFL score scale and IELTS band system helps students prepare more effectively.

How PrepGuru Academy Helps Students Succeed

PrepGuru Academy supports students with:

- Live interactive online classes
- Section-wise preparation
- Expert faculty guidance
- Updated study materials
- Speaking and writing evaluations
- Regular mock tests

These features help students achieve their target scores confidently.

Final Thoughts

Both TOEFL and IELTS are excellent English proficiency exams accepted worldwide. The easier exam depends on a student’s individual strengths, learning style, and comfort level.

Students who are comfortable with technology and academic English often find TOEFL easier, while students who prefer face-to-face communication may feel more confident with IELTS.

Before selecting an exam, students should carefully understand the TOEFL iBT score scale and IELTS band score system. With proper preparation, expert mentorship, and support from PrepGuru Academy, students can achieve excellent scores and move closer to their dream of studying abroad.